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MAIN RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1980) AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION) OF RELEVANCE TO THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Na.81-8563

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL DURING ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1980

Geneva, 3-25 July 1980

RESOLUTION **1980/47. International co-operation in the field of human settlements**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974 containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Affirming that human settlements development should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and the development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Recognizing that the Commission on Human Settlements has addressed itself meaningfully to substantive issues in the field of human settlements which are of priority concern to Member States, particularly to developing countries,

Expressing its appreciation of the initiative taken by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in providing direct technical assistance to a large number of developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of consolidating the operations of the Centre at its headquarters at Nairobi and welcoming the steps taken by the Executive Director of the Centre in this regard,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its third session, [1]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its third session and decides to transmit it to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-fifth session;

2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly for its consideration those resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission that require action by the Assembly;

3. *Expresses its concern* at the inadequacy of the voluntary contributions so far made available in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and, while expressing appreciation

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/35/8).

to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions for the Centre's activities, urgently appeals to all States and appropriate financial institutions to respond favourably to the appeal of the Commission on Human Settlements for increased financial support for the work programme of the Centre, by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, if possible at or before the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, scheduled to be held in November 1980;

4. *Welcomes* the growing co-operation between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and invites both the Programme and the Centre to intensify that co-operation;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), bearing in mind the importance of energy conservation in the area of human settlements, to elaborate concrete and specific proposals aimed at making an effective and meaningful contribution to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and to report thereon, through the Commission on Human Settlements, to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1981.

43rd plenary meeting
23 July 1980

DECISION

1980/179. Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 25 July 1980, the Council:

(*a*) Took note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twentieth session;[121]

(*b*) Decided that the human settlements programme should be excluded from paragraph 364 (*b*) of the report and recommended that the recommendation in sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph 365 (*b*) should be ignored;

(*c*) Decided to endorse the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee, taking into account the reservations and comments made thereon by members of the Committee, and to transmit the report and the views expressed thereon in the Council to the General Assembly for consideration at its thirty-fifth session.

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[121] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/35/38).

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-fifth session

Agenda item 61 (l)

35/75. Living conditions of the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, 1/ and the relevant recommendations for national action 2/ adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Recalling also resolution 3, entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinians in the occupied territories", contained in the recommendations for international co-operation adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements 3/ and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2026 (LXI) of 4 August 1976 and 2100 (LXIII) of 3 August 1977,

Recalling further its resolutions 31/110 of 16 December 1976, 32/171 of 19 December 1977, 33/110 of 18 December 1978 and 34/113 of 14 December 1979,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories; 4/

2. Deplores the refusal of the Government of Israel to allow the Group of Experts on the Social and Economic Impact of the Israeli Occupation on the Living Conditions of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Arab Territories 5/ to visit the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied by Israel;

3. Condemns Israeli policy resulting in the deterioration of the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories;

4. Calls upon all States to co-operate with United Nations agencies, organizations and organs and local Palestinian authorities to alleviate the tragic living conditions of the Palestinian people caused by the Israeli occupation;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and analytical report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

1/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum) chap. I.

2/ Ibid., chap. II.

3/ Ibid., chap. III.

4/ A/35/533 and Corr.1.

5/ For the report of the Group of Experts, see A/35/533 and Corr.1, annex I.

35/76. Strengthening of human settlements activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1224 (XLII) of 6 June 1967 and 1670 (LII) of 1 June 1972 concerning the improvement and upgrading of living and environmental conditions in the squatter settlements and slums of urban and rural areas,

Recognizing that one of the most urgent needs in developing countries is to upgrade the living and working conditions of low-income and disadvantaged groups in both rural and urban areas,

Reaffirming that adequate shelter and services are a basic human right, as proclaimed in the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, 1/ and that, in striving to uphold this right, priority must be given to the needs of the poor, the homeless and the most vulnerable groups of society,

Noting with concern that, in the years that have elapsed since the convening of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the conditions of human settlements in developing countries have, by and large, worsened, particularly in the urban areas, where the growth of slums and squatter settlements has continued unabated, in the midst of poverty, squalor, overcrowding and human degradation,

Noting also that an increasing number of Governments are committed to upgrading low-income urban settlements and to improving the quality of life in rural areas and that, although some progress has been achieved in these directions, much remains to be accomplished,

Recognizing that it is necessary to translate the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements into action-oriented programmes and thereby renew the spirit and sense of purpose proclaimed at the Conference,

Recognizing also that the provision of housing, infrastructure and services can constitute a major instrument and thrust for combating poverty, improving the environmental conditions and quality of life, increasing productivity, generating employment and income and extending the fruits of economic progress to the poor and the needy,

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1/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.

Noting with satisfaction that the Commission on Human Settlements, at its third session, reviewed especially, as selected themes of importance, the upgrading of urban slums and squatter settlements and the development of rural settlements and growth centres, and requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue to give high priority to these two subjects within the work programme and the medium-term plan of the Centre and to assist developing countries in related practical programmes and pilot demonstration projects, 2/

Considering that the international community should take concrete steps to support the efforts of the developing countries to improve living conditions in both their urban and their rural sectors, especially for the benefit of underprivileged groups,

1. Urges Member States, within the framework of their national plans and priorities, to strengthen their policies regarding human settlements and to undertake concrete action-oriented programmes to implement the recommendations adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, with special emphasis on the provision of adequate shelter, infrastructure and services to the people living in squatter settlements and slums of urban and rural areas;

2. Calls upon the Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to provide all possible support to Member States in the implementation of the above-mentioned programmes;

3. Expresses the view that an international year devoted to the problems of homeless people in urban and rural areas in the developing countries could be an appropriate occasion to focus the attention of the international community on those problems;

4. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to submit a report, after appropriate consultations with Governments, to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission on Human Settlements at its fourth session, on the implications of declaring an international year, which would be committed to providing homes for the poor and the homeless and would focus world-wide attention on the rehabilitation of the shanty-dweller, taking into account the guidelines for future international years adopted by the Council in its resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 and by the General Assembly in its decision 35/424 of 5 December 1980, and in accordance also with the goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in the social field; 3/

5. Requests the Commission on Human Settlements to review the report at its fourth session and to transmit it, with the Commission's comments, to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its second regular session of 1981, taking into account the guidelines referred to in paragraph 4 above.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/35/8), annex I, decisions 3/13 and 3/14.

3/ See General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex, sect. II.

35/77. Human settlements

A

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/152 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and its resolution 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

Recalling also its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/47 of 23 July 1980 on international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

Affirming that the development of human settlements should be viewed in the context of national plans and priorities and the development objectives of all countries, in particular the developing countries,

Recognizing that the Commission on Human Settlements has addressed itself meaningfully to substantive issues in the field of human settlements, which are of priority concern to Member States, particularly to developing countries,

Reaffirming the need to enhance the effectiveness and improve the co-ordination of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its third session, 1/

Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its third session.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/35/8).

B

Co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling section VI, paragraph 1, of its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, by which it urged the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements to meet biannually with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the bureau of the Governing Council of the Programme,

Noting the recommendation of the Commission on Human Settlements at its third session 2/ and that of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its eighth session 3/ that such meetings should be held annually,

Approves the holding of joint meetings of the bureaux of the Commission on Human Settlements and of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme with the two Executive Directors once a year, rather than on a biannual basis.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

C

Participation of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

The General Assembly,

Recalling section II, paragraph 4 (b), of its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, in which it called upon the Commission on Human Settlements to follow closely the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations in the field of human settlements and to propose, when appropriate, ways and means by which the over-all policy objectives and goals in the field of human settlements within the United Nations system might best be achieved,

Recalling also section III, paragraphs 5 (a) and (b), of its resolution 32/162, in which it called upon the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to ensure the harmonization at the intersecretariat level of human settlements programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system and to assist the Commission on Human Settlements in co-ordinating human settlements activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness,

2/ Ibid., annex I, resolution 3/6.

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 25 (A/35/25), annex I, decision 8/5.

Noting with satisfaction that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements is now a fully integrated organization with a programme of work, including technical assistance, research, training and the dissemination of information in the field of human settlements,

Invites the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of that Committee and its subsidiary machinery.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980

D

Financial contributions in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the initiative taken by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in providing technical assistance in the field of human settlements to a large number of developing countries,

Noting the concern expressed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1980/47 at the inadequacy of the voluntary contributions so far made available in support of the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

1. Expresses its appreciation to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions for the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

2. Urgently appeals to all States and appropriate financial institutions to respond favourably to the appeal of the Commission on Human Settlements for increased financial support for the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements by making or increasing their voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

83rd plenary meeting
5 December 1980